APPROVED | O.G. FIG.
BY | CLASS | SUBCLASS
DRAFTSMAN

APPLN. FILING DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 2000
TITLE: METHOD FOR DRAGGING AND DROPPING BETWEEN MULTIPLE LAYERED WINDOWS
INVENTOR(S): DAVID EWING
APPLICATION SERIAL NO: 09/672,957

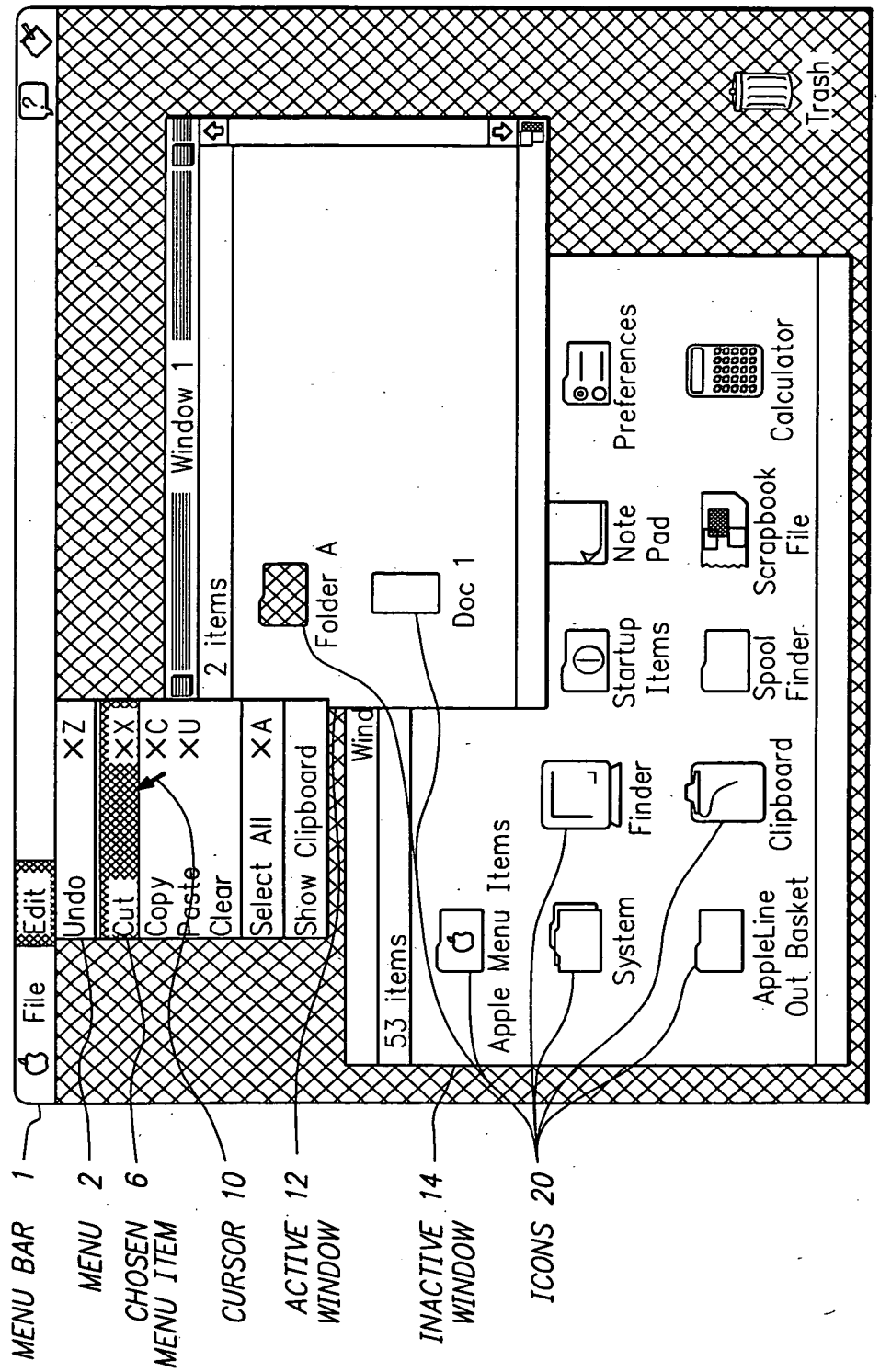

FIG. 1

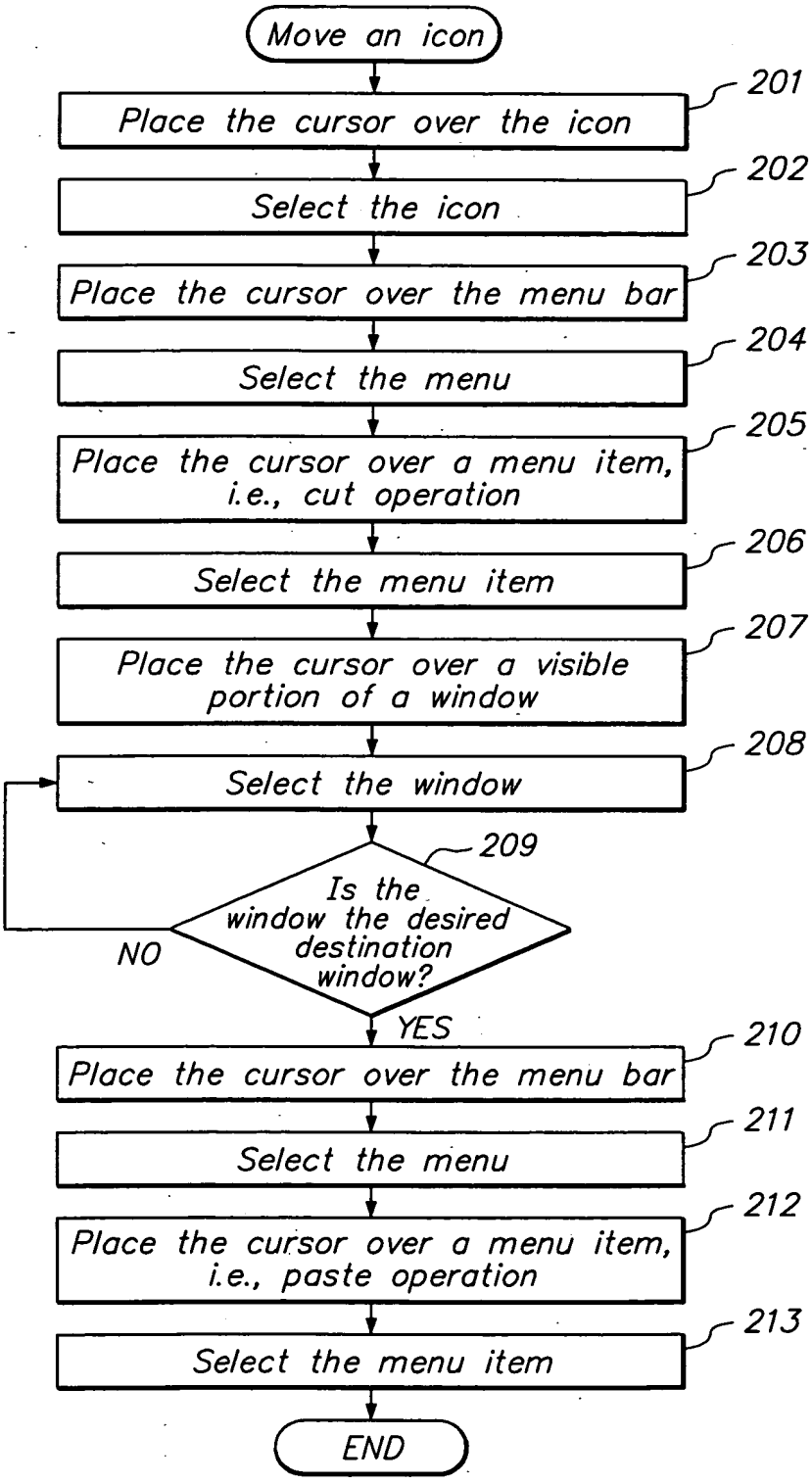

FIG. 2 (PRIOR ART)

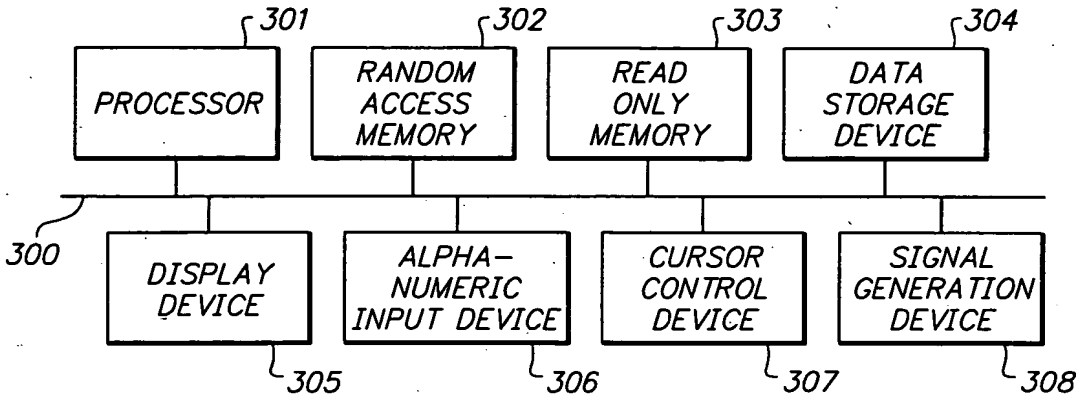
301
302
303
304
PROCESSOR
RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY
READ ONLY MEMORY
DATA STORAGE DEVICE
300
DISPLAY DEVICE
ALPHA-NUMERIC INPUT DEVICE
CURSOR CONTROL DEVICE
SIGNAL GENERATION DEVICE
305
306
307
308

FIG. 3

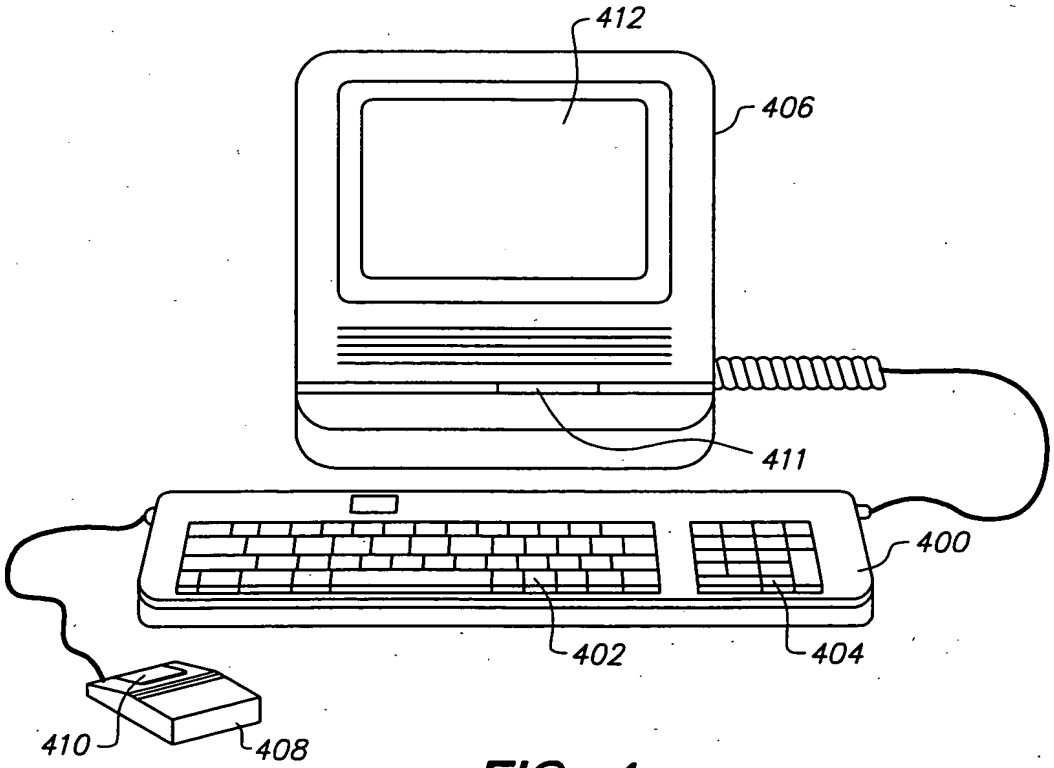
412
406
411
400
402
404
410
408

FIG. 4

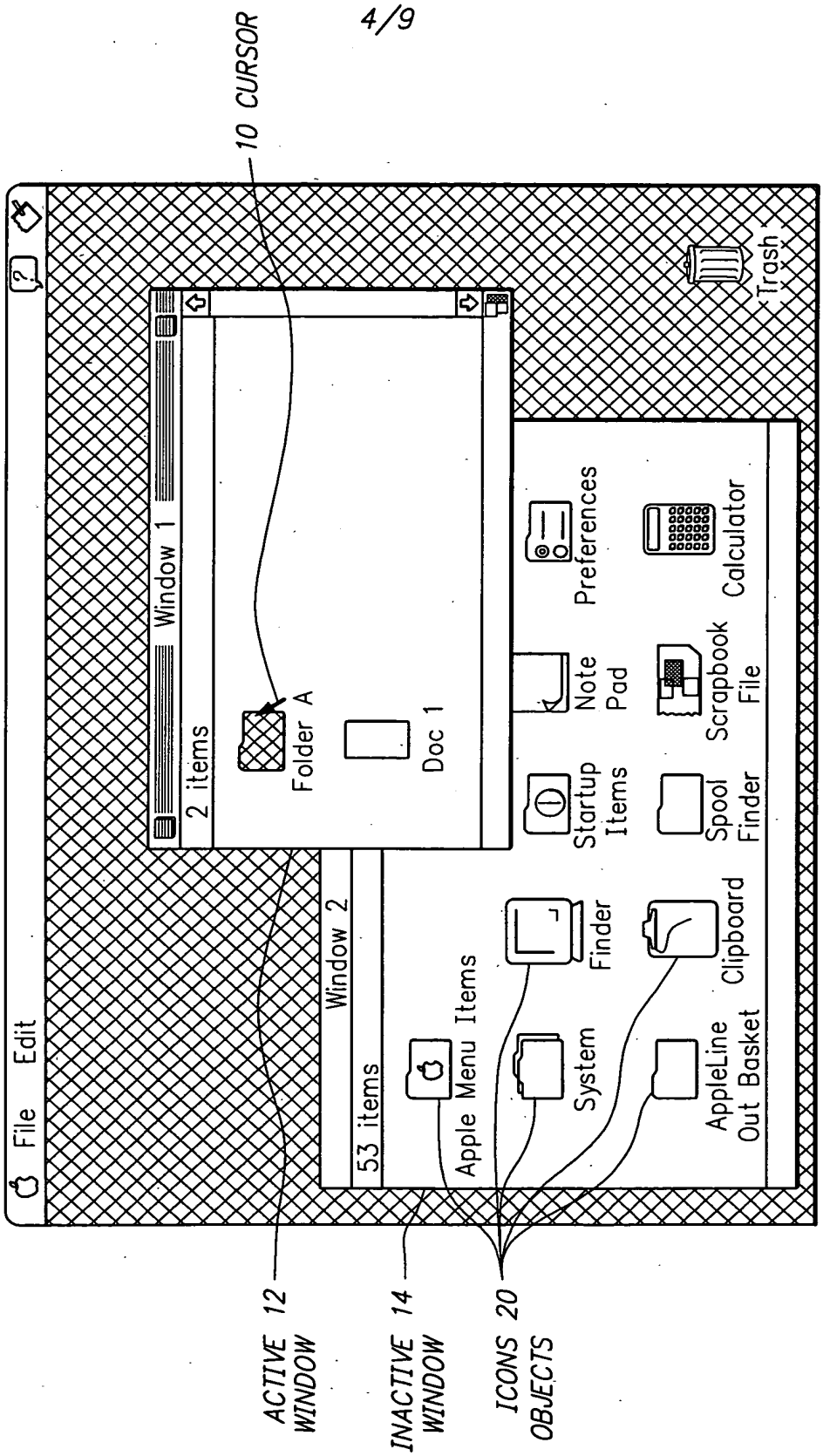
10 CURSOR
File
Edit
Window 1
2 items
Folder A
Doc 1
Window 2
53 items
Apple Menu Items
Finder
System
Clipboard
AppleLine Out Basket
Startup Items
Spool Finder
Note Pad
Scrapbook File
Preferences
Calculator
Trash
ACTIVE WINDOW 12
INACTIVE WINDOW 14
ICONS OBJECTS 20

FIG. 5

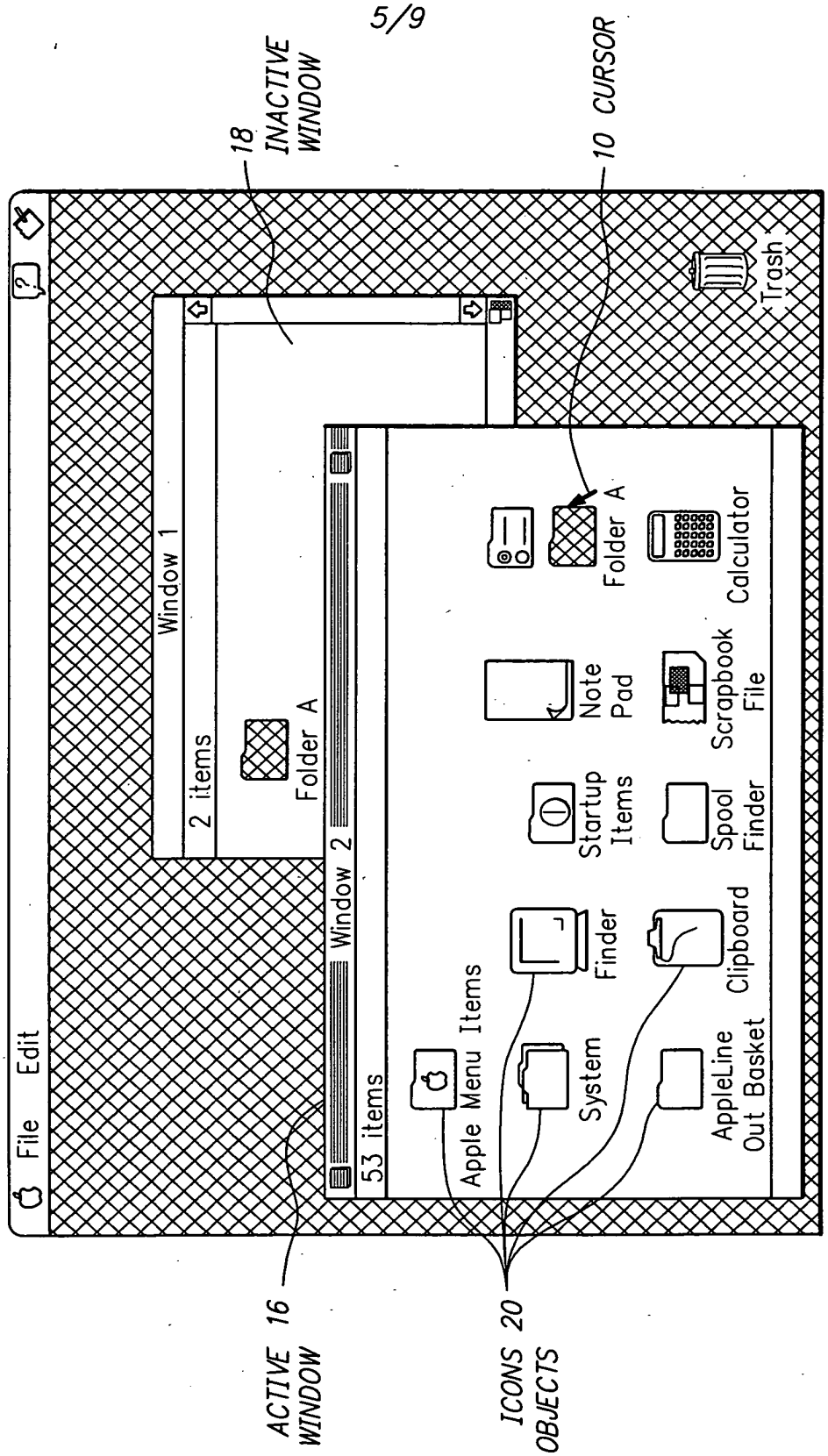
18 INACTIVE WINDOW
10 CURSOR
Trash
Window 1
2 items
Folder A
Window 2
53 items
Folder A
Calculator
Note Pad
Scrapbook File
Startup Items
Spool Finder
Finder
Clipboard
Apple Menu Items
System
AppleLine Out Basket
File Edit
ACTIVE WINDOW 16
ICONS OBJECTS 20

FIG. 6

APPROVED BY DRAFTSMAN | O.G. FIG. | CLASS | SUBCLASS

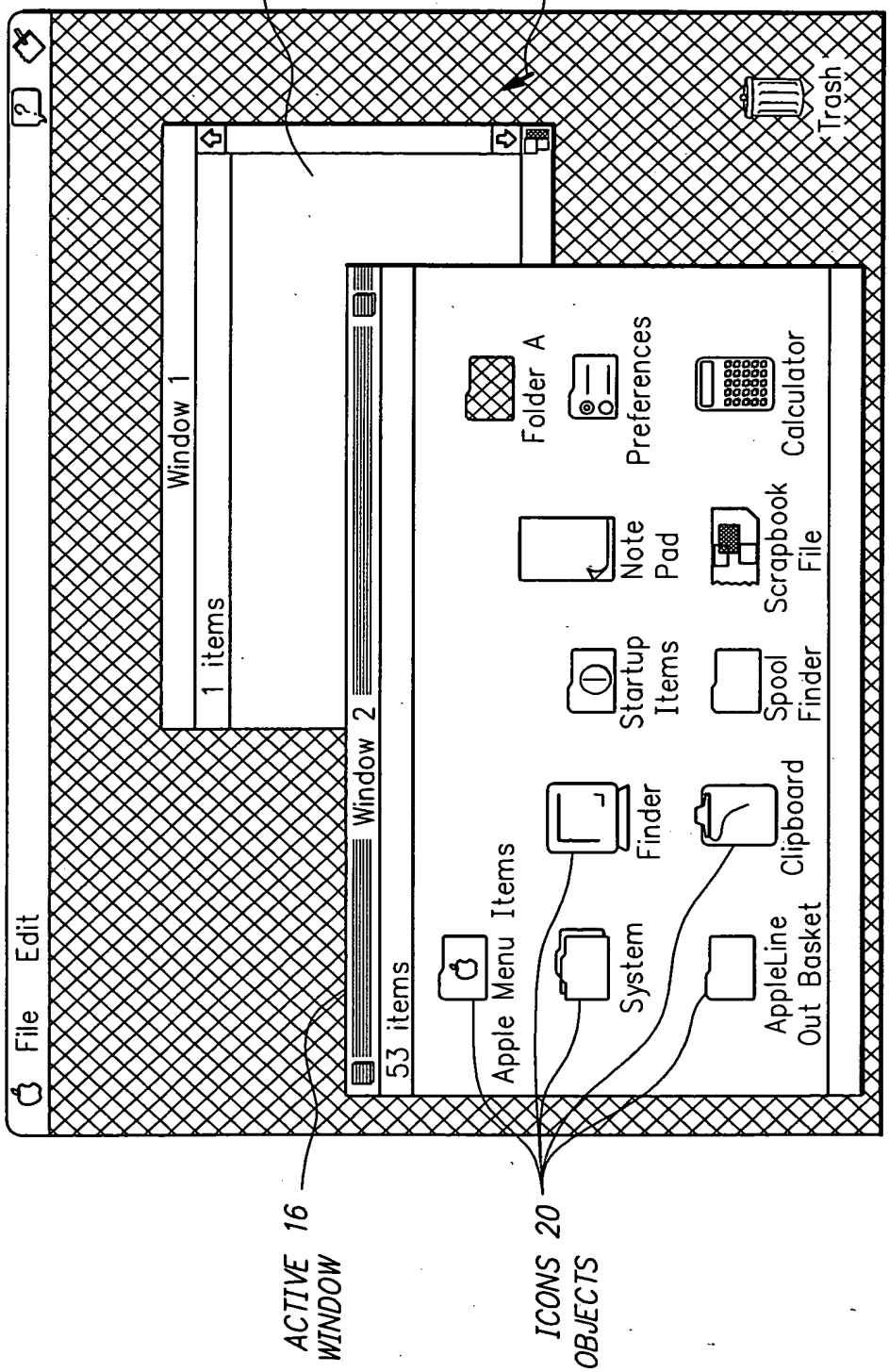

FIG. 7

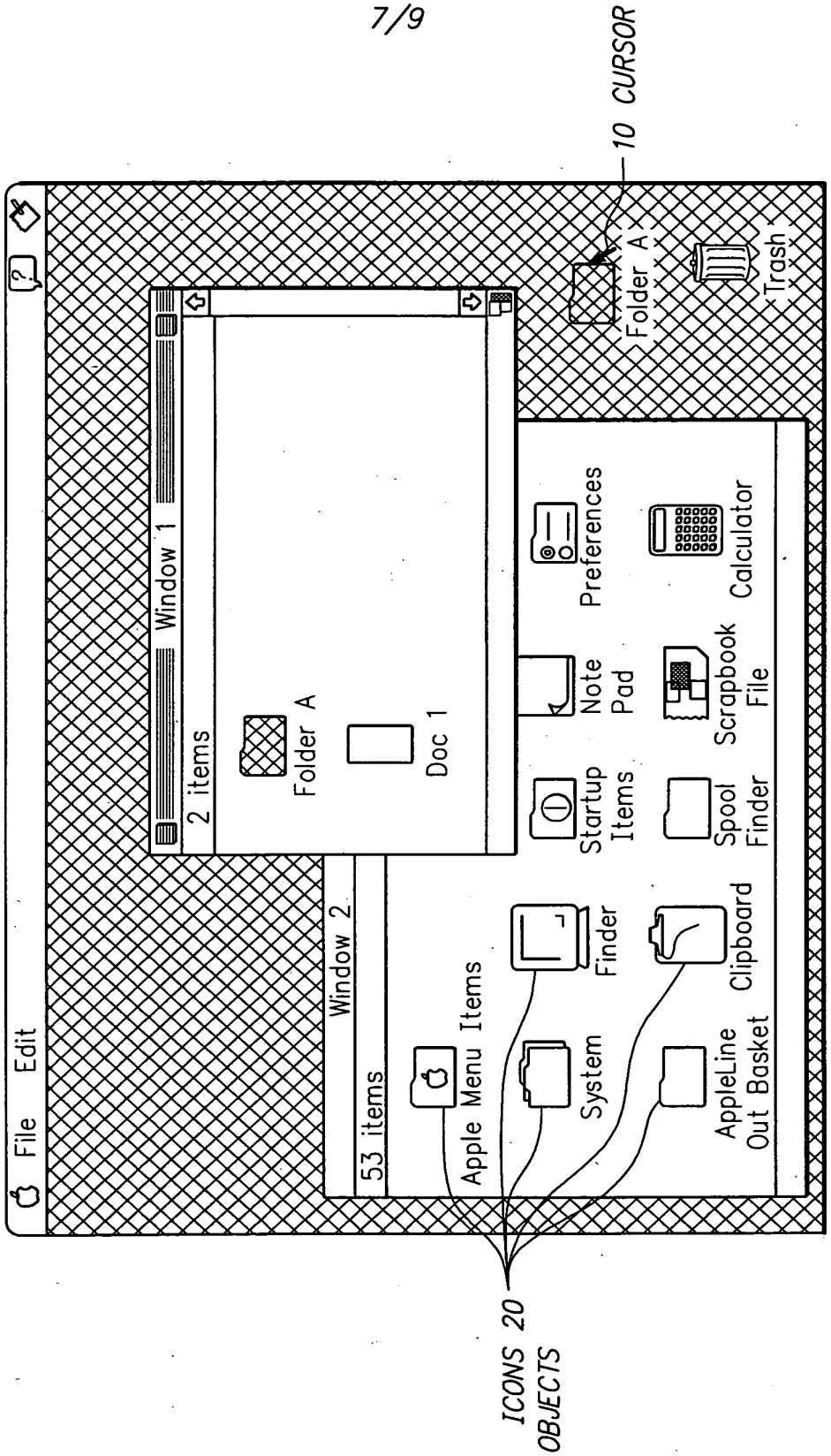
10 CURSOR
Folder A
Trash
Window 1
2 items
Folder A
Doc 1
Preferences
Calculator
Note Pad
Scrapbook File
Startup Items
Spool Finder
Window 2
53 items
Apple Menu Items
System Finder
AppleLine Out Basket
Clipboard
File
Edit
ICONS 20
OBJECTS

FIG. 8

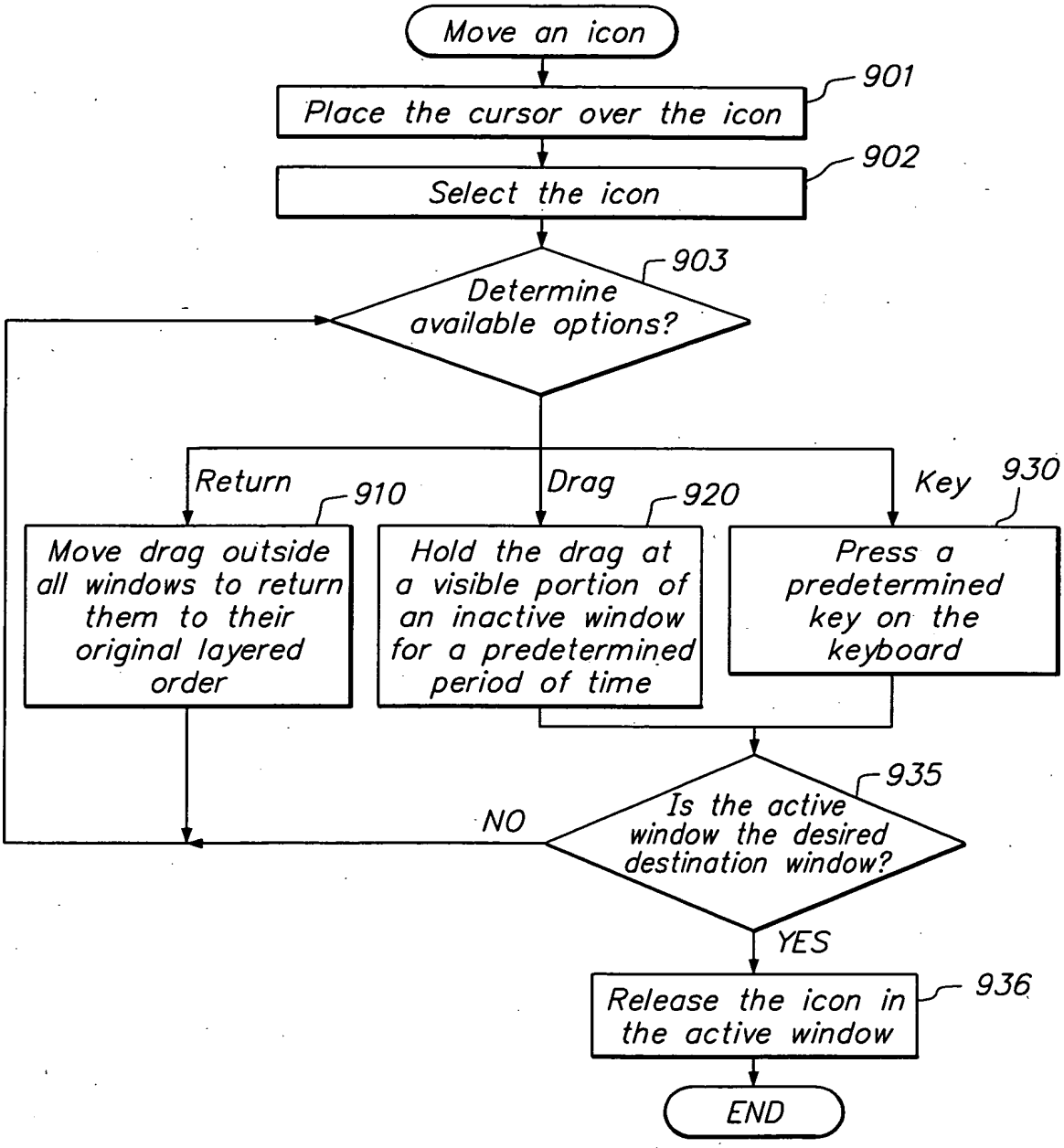
Move an icon
Place the cursor over the icon
901
Select the icon
902
Determine available options?
903
Return
910
Drag
920
Key
930
Move drag outside all windows to return them to their original layered order
Hold the drag at a visible portion of an inactive window for a predetermined period of time
Press a predetermined key on the keyboard
Is the active window the desired destination window?
935
NO
YES
Release the icon in the active window
936
END

FIG. 9A

9/9

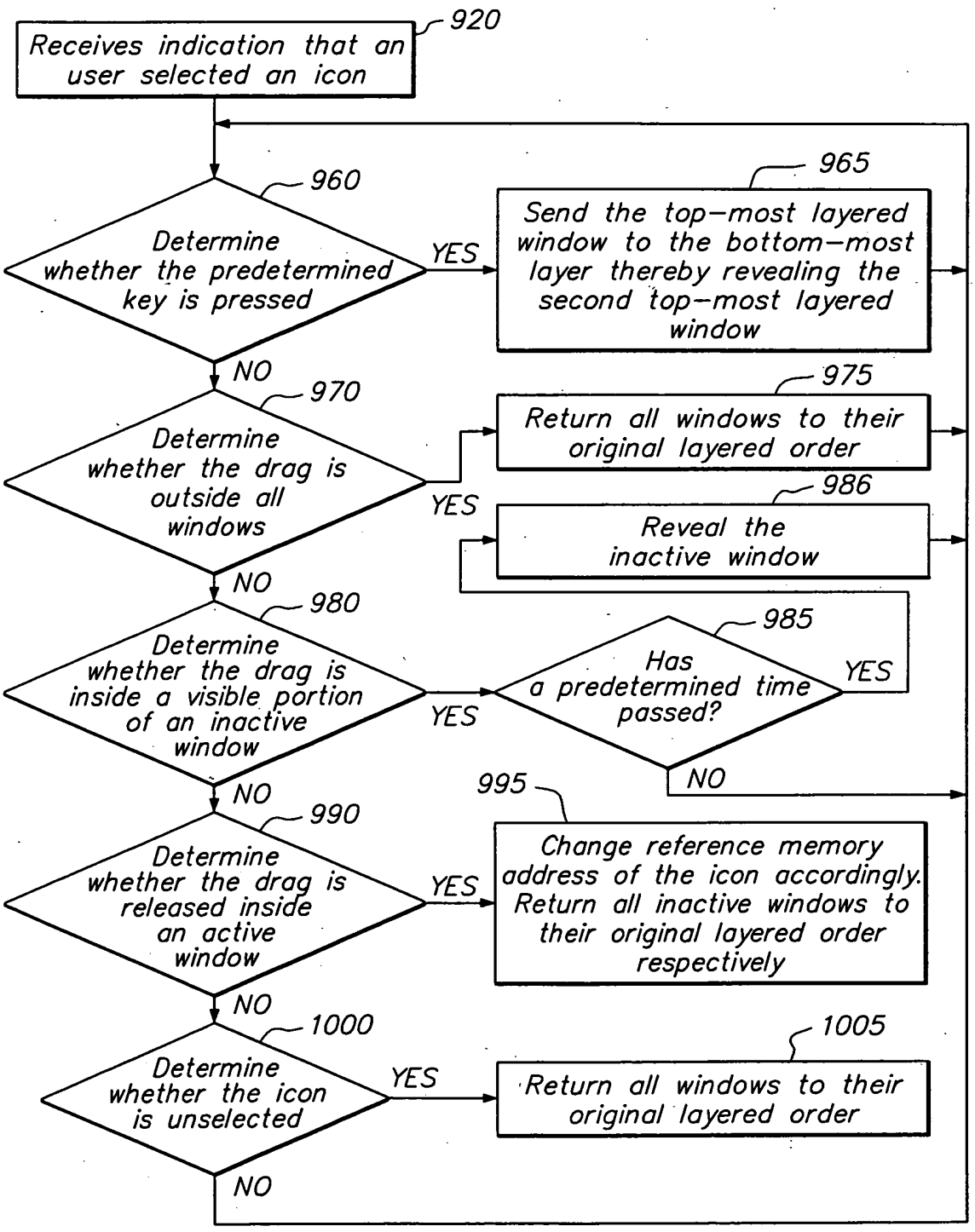
Receives indication that an user selected an icon
920
960
Determine whether the predetermined key is pressed
YES
965
Send the top-most layered window to the bottom-most layer thereby revealing the second top-most layered window
NO
970
Determine whether the drag is outside all windows
975
Return all windows to their original layered order
YES
986
Reveal the inactive window
NO
980
Determine whether the drag is inside a visible portion of an inactive window
985
Has a predetermined time passed?
YES
YES
NO
NO
990
Determine whether the drag is released inside an active window
995
Change reference memory address of the icon accordingly. Return all inactive windows to their original layered order respectively
YES
NO
1000
Determine whether the icon is unselected
1005
Return all windows to their original layered order
YES
NO

FIG. 9B